CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A host computer for enabling peer-to-peer transfer of data over a computer network between a plurality of guest computers which are themselves operatively connectable over a computer network, the host computer comprising:

a host computing machine operatively connectable to a computer network;

a memory storage device operatively connected to said host computing machine; and

a computer program, stored in said memory storage device and executable by said host computing machine;

said computing machine executing said computer program to perform the steps of:

over a computer network, establishing connection to a plurality of guest computers;

for each of said plurality of guest computers, determining an IP address, a web browser type, a guest computer type, and a screen sharing software type;

to each of said plurality of guest computers, transferring a hypertext markup language page, said page containing a link with active code;

said active code containing data and containing instructions executable on each respective one of said plurality of guest computers, said data and instructions causing the operation of a screen sharing program on said respective one of said plurality of guest computers, said data and instructions further causing the transfer of data from one to another of said plurality of guest computers.

2. A host computer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said transfer of data from one to another of said plurality of guest computers is accomplished without subsequent connection of any of said plurality of guest computers to said host computer.

5   **3.** A method of viewing on a guest computer, over the Internet, a file which is stored on a remote computer, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a remote computer operatively connected to the Internet, said remote computer comprising a remote computer web browser program, a screen sharing program, and a memory containing in machine readable form a file

10   which is viewable with the aid of said remote computer screen sharing program and transmissible over the Internet by said remote computer with the aid of said remote computer web browsing program;

providing a guest computer operatively connected to the Internet, said guest computer comprising a guest computer web browser program and a guest

15   computer screen sharing program, said guest computer screen sharing program being capable of viewing said file stored in said memory of said remote computer, said guest computer web browsing program being capable of receiving over the Internet said file stored in said memory of said remote computer;

20   providing a web server operatively connected to the Internet, said web server comprising a web server web browser program;

operating said guest computer and said web server to construct on said web server a representation of guest computer parameters identified with said guest computer, said guest computer parameters including a guest computer screen

25   sharing software type and a guest computer its web browser type;

operating said guest computer and said web server to identify to said web server the IP address of said remote computer;

operating said remote computer and said web server to construct on said web server a representation of remote computer parameters identified with said remote computer, said remote computer parameters including a remote computer IP address and a remote computer screen sharing software type;

5 operating said web server and said guest computer to transmit to said guest computer a web page with active code, said active code being executable on said guest computer, said active code being determined by said guest computer parameters and said remote computer parameters; and

executing said active code on said guest computer to operate said guest
10 computer and said remote computer to transmit said file from said remote computer to said guest computer and to display said file on said guest computer.